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News Release

State Awards Banks County Funding for Critical Facilities Mass Alert Project

(ATLANTA) -- Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, on behalf of Governor Nathan Deal, recently awarded a \$6,480 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program project to Banks County to enhance its Emergency Notification System. This system is multi-platform and can reach the public and stakeholders via land line, cell phone, text message and e-mail.

“During an emergency, officials need to alert the public with life-saving information quickly” said GEMHSA Director Jim Butterworth.

The amount awarded includes a federal share of \$4,860. The remainder will come from a state share of \$648 and a local share of \$972. These funds are part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s HMGP, which provides funds to state agencies and local governments for projects that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from the effects of natural hazards by breaking the repetitive cycle of destruction and reconstruction. These funds were made possible as a result of Banks County’s participation and adoption of the Banks County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

As part of the Office of the Governor, GEMHSA works with local, state and federal governments, in partnership with the private sector and faith-based community, to protect life and property against man-made and natural emergencies. In addition, GEMHSA employees are on 24-hour call statewide to assist local authorities when disaster strikes. Go to www.ready.ga.gov or download the free Ready Georgia app to get information on preparing for a disaster and developing a custom emergency plan and Ready kit.

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